

PELVIC DISORDER TREATMENT DEVICE

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FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to electronic medical devices, and specifically to devices to relieve problems associated with urinary incontinence and other pelvic disorders.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Urinary incontinence affects millions of people, causing discomfort and embarrassment, sometimes to the point of social isolation. In the United States, recent studies have shown that as many as 25 million persons, of whom approximately 85% are women, are affected by bladder control problems. Incontinence occurs in children and young adults, but the largest number affected are the elderly.

There are several major forms of incontinence:

- Stress incontinence is an involuntary loss of urine while doing physical activities which put pressure on the abdomen. These activities include exercise, coughing, sneezing, laughing, lifting, or any body movement which puts pressure on the bladder. Stress incontinence is typically associated with either or both of the following anatomical conditions:

Urethral hypermobility - Weakness of or injury to pelvic floor muscles causes the bladder to descend during abdominal straining or pressure, allowing urine to leak out of the bladder. This is the more common source of stress incontinence.